[English]

We only have the allocated power from NTPC. Definitely after consultation with the Andhra Pradesh authorities, we will examine the case. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have not allowed you. Nothing will go on record.

... *(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The matter is closed now. Please sit down first. I have allowed only Shri Haradhan Roy.

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have given notice. You have allowed me to speak. Please let me conclude my speech.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right, you speak after Mr. Haradhan Roy.

[English]

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol) : Sir, two hundred Railway Commission Vendors of the Eastern Railway are waiting for a long time to get themselves absorbed in permanent posts. In 1990, medical tests were done for these vendors. But the reason for the delay to make them permanent is not known. I would request the Government to take immediate steps to make them permanent without any further delay so that these poor vendors are not put into trouble.

[Translation]

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, now I am speaking on power crisis in Andhra Pradesh. The situation is not good there. I have already given you some instance of power crisis in Andhra Pradesh particularly in the Telengana Region which includes nine districts, *viz.* Medak, Karim Nagar, Adilabad, Nizamabad and a number of other areas. The farmers resorted to agitation there. The farmers did not take the help of any party. They have no links with the Janata Dal also. They created such a party in Mahbub Nagar. The T.D.P. and thereafter the Congress Party staged a dharna. The Medak district, which I represent now was being represented by Indira Ji. A farmer Durgeya by name Committed suicide due to non-supply of electricity and supply at a low voltage ... *(Interruptions)*. It is a matter of great shame ... *(Interruptions)*. It was done like this. People who were passing by the site were lathi-charged ... *(Interruptions)*. Section 307 was imposed on the farmers ... *(Interruptions)*. The farmers were carrying on a peaceful agitation due to non-supply of electricity to them, but the State Government imposed section 307 on them ...*(Interruptions)*

Not a single Kilowatt of Power has been generated in the State after the present Government resumed office ... *(Interruptions)* It is a matter of great shame ... *(Interruptions)* Today demonstrations are being held everywhere ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : In Karim Nagar district ... *(Interruptions)*. He consumed insecticide ... *(Interruptions)*. This sort of attitude on his part is wrong. The hon. Prime Minister should sanction him a grant of Rs. 5 lakh. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Yellaiah, I asked you to conclude witnin a minute. You have already spoken for ten minutes. Please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Section 307 was imposed on them. It should be withdrawn ... *(Interruptions)*. If the present Government of the State continues with such a policy ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Jenaji, please control your Members.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Yellaiah, you have had your say. Please take you seat now.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down now. Members on this side also may take their seats.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER; Nothing will go on record. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very important matter. Women have always been at the receiving end in this country. Whenever any matter relating to Women was raised in the House, it concluded with just a discussion only. Female Children are not allowed to take birth. In 1994 a Joint Committee was constituted about pre-natal diagnostic. The committee toured the entire country and talked to all and sundry in this regard. An act was enacted to check the practice of pre-natal diagnosis. There was a provision to stop the practice of murdering of female foetus. A Central

*Not Recorded.

Supervisory Board had also been constituted for this purpose. It had been decided to take three M.Ps of the Lok Sabha in the Board according to relevant provisions. Members of the previous Lok Sabha including were nominated to the said Board. But no Government took interest to constitute the Central Supervisory Board in 1994. Once again when the present Lok Sabha was constituted two M.Ps of Lok Sabha were nominated to the Board. I was again nominated to the Board, but the Board has not yet been constituted. When I raised the matter 2-3 times, I got the intimation about the constitution of the Board. Not a single sitting of the Board has been held since 1994. It was a very important issue for which a Joint Committee had been constituted. It seems that nobody is prepared to consider the cause of woman whether it relates to reservation for women, atrocities on them or birth of female Child. I would like you to intervene in the matter and see that the meeting of the Central Advisory Board is held immediately. Everybody expressed sympathy to check female foeticide. Action should be taken in this regard in the real sense.

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, we are also on a point of order. Please give your ruling on it.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, there is complete unanimity in the House in regard to according recognition to Railway Protection Force Association.

The recognition to the Association was withdrawn in 1986. Its Joint Secretary, Shri U.S. Jha, is on an indefinite fast. This House and the Leader of the Opposition, who spoke about three years back, demanded that the recognition to the RPF Association, which was there prior to amendment of the RPF Act, should be restored.

In piloted a Private Member's Bill. On a firm assurance by the former Minister of Railways, Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief, I withdrew that Bill. He assured the House that he would bring forward a Bill to amend Section 15 of the RPF Act. The RPF was converted into an armed force in 1986. We opposed it tooth and nail. But that Act was amended and recognition to the Association was withdrawn. They are fighting for its restoration. We are also asking for it.

When two Members from the former ruling party, Congress (I), Namely Sarvashri P.R. Kumaramangalam and Harish Rawat, staged a *dharna* inside the House, the whole House supported their demand. Then, the former Railway Minister, Shri Janeshwar Mishra, during the Prime Ministership of Shri Chandra Shekhar, announced that the Government had decided to grant recognition to the RPF Association.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, it is a very important issue. The Leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and everybody else will also agree with me.

In spite of all this, the matter is still pending. The Minister of Home Affairs also convened a meeting. I was there. The Minister of Railways and the Minister of Water Resources were also there.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : All of us supported it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : When the House is unanimous, I think, there should not be any objection to grant recognition to the RPF Association. I request the Minister of Railways, the Minister of Home Affairs and the Minister of Law to take an initiative and grant recognition to the RPF Association. I request the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee also to support my demand.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Shrimati Rita Verma and myself have given a notice on privileges. The hon. Speaker, had said that he would give his ruling today.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Speaker will give his ruling now. It is not in my knowledge. The matter is with him.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He will give his ruling today.

... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have allowed him to speak. Please let him speak.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please let him speak first. I have allowed him

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of giving right to the Railway Protection Force Personnel to form an association has come up several times in the House. Members belonging to different Parties have lent their support to this demand. The Railway Protection Force personnel are railway servants.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You say that you also support it.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Yes, Sir. As per Section 10 of the RPF Act, and Section 3(7) of the Indian Railways Act, they are railway servants for all purposes. They are also civil servants for all purposes, within the meaning of the Article 301 of the Constitution, as per Section 9 of the RPF Act, Railway Servants Conduct Rules, 1966, and the Railway Servants Disciplinary and Appeal Rules, 1968. Besides, several other rules are made applicable to the RPF personnel. Thus, they are governed by the same rules as other railway servants. There is no valid reason to